

LAKE FACTS AS OF 6/27/2020 by Mike Backus

Lake Level

I started my pier water level monitoring on May 6th. During the last 2 months the level has been as low as one inch below that starting level. However, at another time it reached one inch above the starting level! As of 6/27 we are right back at where we were at on May 6th. It could have been worse because the lake area has received 12" of rain since March 30, 2020.

Water Clarity

It has been measured six times even though monitors like me were not encouraged to do our monitoring. The best quality was 22' and the worst 16' on June 4th when the surface water looked like crap due to all the tree pollen. On 6/27 it was 18'.

Water Temp

Water temps were also measured six times. In addition to those readings five special readings were taken to provide input for the EWM treatment. The lake was slow to warm this spring just ask any swimmer. Today it finally reached 74 degrees at the surface.

EWM Treatment

Based on growth observations and water temps, the treatment was scheduled for June 11th. On that day the winds were strong and the contracted company called off the treatment because we had too much water movement which would have reduced the effectiveness of the treatment. The lake was then treated on June 12th which was as perfect a day as we have had in years. Stay in water some 15' deep along the shoreline so as not to cut the EWM with your prop. When cut it falls to the bottom and reseeds itself!!!!

Boat Landing

The Adams Co person assigned to manage this public landing has heard our complaints - maybe encouraged some by the DNR who owns the landing. He has

graded the entrance road and the entire parking area. Improvements to the pier have also been made. Time and budget will dictate if he can do more pier improvements and define a traffic flow for the landing area.

Fish Kill

A fish kill did take place the first week of June. I notified the DNR but we lacked information on types of fish and number of kills to be of much help to them. Over the years other lakes have experienced the same situation as has this lake. It is usually due to a bacteria outbreak or more likely an oxygen depletion during the spring 'turn-over'.

Algae

Early in June the surface water was very poor. Higher algae level than normal and higher chlorophyll level was the reason. This spring many /most lakes got off to this bad start with surface water conditions. Per the DNR this was a very different spring in this regard. Tree pollen and our cottonwood bloom did not help us.

Floating Bogs

This week we have seen at least one of these natural situations. They are called 'chara meadows' and are simply a big entwined chunk of the plant-like algae chara that has enough buoyancy to float up because they are not attached to the bottom of the lake. GREAT fertilizer for your plants if you want to pull it out of the water.

Water Safety

The DNR Wardens are no longer 'staying at home' and are therefore out performing their assigned duties so expect to see them on our lake at some point. Boating law reminders: "it is unlawful to operate a vessel within 100' of any dock, raft, pier or restricted area at greater than 'slow, no wake' speed". "No Wake Speed" means a speed at which a vessel moves as slowly as possible while still maintaining steering control".

Clean Boats/Clean Water

Laura and Mark Shaw have had only 3 other lake residents help them this year so far. They could use your help! We have towels and ice packs to hand out but have been told not this year because of the virus. Because of storage issues, some boaters may be asked by us to take some supplies off our hands during the July 4th weekend 😊